

Church Life

VOLUME II.

JANUARY, 1905.

NUMBER 1.

The Annual Meeting.

The seventy-first annual business meeting of our church was held on Wednesday evening, January 11th. Dr. de Blois was elected chairman of the meeting and reports were submitted.

The report of the nominating committee was accepted and the ticket was elected as follows:

Church Officers

Deacons—E. D. Neal, Charles A. Pienkowski, J. S. McCullough, Harry W. Stone. Dr. Arthur E. Thomas, for unexpired term of James Barron, resigned.

Trustees—H. F. Googins, John H. Wrenn, T. E. Donnelley, J. Gorton Marsh, C. H. Marshall, Henry P. Pope, M. J. Piercey, H. W. Tomlinson, R. B. Twiss.

Church Clerk—H. F. Perkins; F. S. Allen, Assistant.

Treasurer—Richard B. Twiss; H. C. Holloway, Assistant.

Collector of Pew Rent—M. J. Piercey. Auditing Committee—J. D. Stowell, H. J. Hale.

Baptismal Committee—M. V. Wagner, Reuben Turrill, Miss Clara Stowell, Mrs. S. B. Lingle, Mrs. E. L. Russell, Miss Mary Marx.

Church Mission Committee—Louis T. Austermell, Cassius J. Williamson, Mrs. R. R. Donnelley, William Wigney, Bowman C. Lingle, A. R. Rhenisch.

Library Committee—C. H. Stone, J. A. Hessler, Walter C. Tucker, Mrs. W. E. Smith, Mrs. G. M. Atwell.

Sunday School Officers

Superintendent, Charles E. Whitmore; Assistant Superintendent in charge of Intermediate Department, James Barron; Assistant Superintendent, in charge of Primary Department, J. A. Hessler; Sec-

retary, H. Webster Tomlinson; Treasurer, Charles H. Stone; Librarian, Charles W. Henson; Horace Wignew, Assistant. Home Department, Superintendent, H. F. Googins.

THE REPORT OF THE PASTOR

Dear Friends and Fellow-workers:

I take pleasure in submitting my second annual report, together with the reports of our various church organizations.

The tone and temper of the church during the past year have been excellent. The spirit of unity and co-operation have been everywhere manifest. It would be difficult to imagine a church more harmonious than ours. There is no "rift within the lute." This spirit of fellowship has found expression in an interesting co-ordination of interests and a community of service and of effort which is most encouraging.

The Church Membership

The report of the church clerk shows an addition of ninety members to the church and a net increase of thirty-five for the year. The attendance at the regular Sunday morning preaching services and at the communion services has been good. With each succeeding year, more of our members remove from the vicinity of the church and are unable to be with us at all of our regular services, but we are encouraged by the presence of these loyal members of the church, many of whom live at a great distance, on Sunday mornings. The majority of the communion Sundays of the past year were unpleasant, and in some cases the weather was very stormy. This has not, however, prevented a large attendance at the Lord's

Supper. In the preceding year, four special efforts were made, through bibles from the pastor and special invitations, to secure a representative gathering of the church at these most important services. Although this effort has only been made once or twice during the past year should, and in spite of the inobligancy of the members on so many occasions, the communion proceedings average about the same for 1893 as for 1892. This should be a cause for deep gratitude as it indicates the loyalty of the people and their interest in the deeper spiritual life of our church.

Finances

In financial, as well as numerical, strength we have cause for gratitude. The church shows another year without a deficit. The weekly offering system has been brought more prominently before the people, and the number of subscribers for the year 1893 is considerably greater than it was one year ago. I am convinced that we must come eventually to rely very largely, if not entirely, upon the weekly offering system as the source of support for our church. It is quite possible that at present we do not all of us understand the idea and purpose of the plan. The system cannot win its largest effectiveness unless there is co-operation all along the line. The subscriptions should come not from the few, but from the many; not from the well-to-do alone, but from the poor as well; not from the family as a family, represented by its head, but from the individual as a unit, every member of the church laying aside each week a contribution for the Lord's work, as the Lord himself directs. A system is not a system if it is only half a system, if it only reaches a struggling but conscientious minority. It is not a substitute for pew rent, nor can the renting of a pew or sitting in our church-home take the place of the voluntary offering.

The fundamental idea in the weekly offering system is the principle which sets aside each week for the service of God and the church a certain definite amount. No exception should be taken to the pledge. We do not promise our landlord that we will pay him \$30 a month in the way of house rent if we can manage to arrange things and if the way seems favorable and no evil conditions arise. Why should we be faithful to our land-

lord and unfaithful to our God? How we not enough faith in Him to promise each week, throughout the year, that we make ventures everywhere else but here, where the greatest faith should be manifested, be skeptical and over-prudent? May I not appeal tonight, through the medium of this annual report, to all those in our church who believe in the voluntary offering system, to become apostles and prophets of this Divinely-ordered system during the coming year?

The treasurer's report indicates, in a foot-note, the large number of contributions, and the large amount of money handled, by the various organizations of the church. The labors of our treasurer and collector are not fully appreciated by all of our members. I had recently the privilege of spending an entire evening in conference with them. I had the opportunity of learning in detail the methods of financial management employed by our church, administered by Mr. Twiss and Mr. Piercy. I am profoundly impressed with the amount of gratuitous service rendered by them for our church. In spite of this fact I wish that it were possible for us to ask our treasurer to assume an additional burden, and to arrange that an account of all amounts received and disbursed by all our societies should be reported from time to time to the church treasurer, and thus pass, in form at least, through his hands.

The difference between \$11,000 for home expenses and \$880 for benevolences does not represent at all correctly the real relation between these two objects of expenditures. The real sum of our benevolences should appear in some exact way.

The Memorial Roll

Only four of our members have been taken away from us by death, during the past year. None of these have been in recent years very actively identified with the work of the body.

The death of Mrs. Sarah Duffield, widow of the late Deacon Charles Duffield, after long months and years of suffering, removed one who for more than forty years had been a member of the First Baptist Church. She was an example of the highest type of noble, Christian womanhood. The memory of her life will long abide in the hearts of her friends as an odor of sweet incense. Her devotion to Christ

and her love for His holy word were a source of inspiration and a lesson in faithfulness to me, as I visited her from time to time, during her last illness.

Mr. S. M. Parris¹ was prominently identified with business interests in this city, and visited our church occasionally, but was not intimately identified with its life and work. He had many friends in our midst, who mourn the death of a man of fine integrity.

Mr. Foote and Miss Brooks, although not widely known, were sincere followers of our Lord and Master and have gone to enjoy His presence.

In common with many other churches which he has served, or where his influence had penetrated, we mourn the death, in a far-away land, of the Rev. Geo. C. Lorimer, D. D., whose decease seemed little less than a calamity in the life of our denomination in America. Dr. Lorimer, during his two years' pastorate of our church, brought to pass a remarkable era of progress and expansion. Memorial services were held in his honor and addresses were delivered by Deacon Goodman and Mr. C. R. Stouffer, who had been intimately associated with him in former years. A copy of the resolution presented at the memorial meeting, beautifully engrossed, was forwarded to Mrs. Lorimer, and acknowledged by her in a tender and beautiful manner to the church, through Deacon Goodman.

Other Changes

The resignation of Deacon R. S. Parker from active service on the Board of Deacons and in the Sunday School is deeply regretted. On account of the weight of years and failing strength, our beloved brother and counselor was obliged to renounce those taxing duties, which he has borne so cheerfully for upwards of thirty years. He has lived in the midst of his family and friends and church a life of eminent Christian consecration. No face is more familiar, no voice is better loved, than his. We shall still rejoice in his presence and his election as a Deacon for Life will perpetuate his loving relations with us, although he is unable to bear the brunt of heavier labors.

The removal of Deacon Lindley and his family took from us three zealous workers. Living near to the church, and identifying themselves fully with its varied interests, they had come to be re-

lied upon for many helpful offices. We think often of them and rejoice that they have already become identified with the Baptist Church in the town to which they have removed, so that, although we have lost their presence, their influence in the Kingdom has been transferred, but not lost.

Pastoral Service

It was a high privilege for me to meet so large a number of the people in their homes during the early part of the year. I succeeded in visiting every member of the church who was resident in the city of Chicago, with the exception of the Chinese brethren. Many had changed their residences, and I was unable to find them, at the last address of which we had had notice; and others, of course, were away from home at the time of my call; but in spite of these hindrances, I was enabled to meet the great majority of the members of the church in a personal and pastoral relation. On account of the extra duties which have devolved upon me during the past few months, I have not been able to make many calls, but I am longing for the opportunity, which will soon again present itself, to continue this important part of my work.

With the exception of a large number of engagements in May and June, during the commencement season, and again in October, during the season of state conventions and similar gatherings, I have refused almost all invitations to deliver public addresses outside of the city. In the past few weeks, I have refused about twenty such requests to speak at banquets, to address various institutions, and to deliver lectures, both in Chicago and elsewhere. It seems necessary for the proper prosecution of the work of the varied agencies of this great church that my outside work should not be very great. I am conscious of the fact that this may seem a limitation of influence, and yet I feel the necessity of this line of action, and I think that you will agree with my policy in this particular.

The Pastor's Assistants

Miss Durfee closed her work as Sunday School missionary at the beginning of the year. Mr. Parker, after four years of most successful and energetic service as the honored assistant pastor, resigned his position here in order to accept a call

to a similar position in the Tremont Temple Baptist Church, Boston. It may not be out of place to refer to the mark of confidence which has already been reposed in our former assistant pastor in his recent promotion to the position of associate pastor of the church where he is now serving. This is a well-merited tribute to his work and devotion.

The First Church of Chicago is a good training-ground for ministers. At the present time, Mr. Vaughan, who filled a brilliant term of service as assistant pastor here, is the leader of one of the strongest churches in the state of Wisconsin; Dr. Shepherdson is the best-known and most successful Baptist evangelist in America; Mr. Linden, who received much of his training in connection with our church, is pastor of the 48th Street Baptist Church of our city; and Mr. Swift is the able pastor of Calvary church.

As a result of the resignation of Miss Durfee and Mr. Parker, the office of church missionary was vacant during the entire year, and that of assistant pastor at the home church during eight months of the year, beginning the first of May. My work during the previous year had seemed to consume all of my time and attention, so that when the problem of assuming the work of two other faithful ministers, who had devoted their entire time to their own particular service, was transferred to me, I naturally felt my inability to grapple with the situation. I have been gratified beyond measure with the hearty and unanimous support which has been given me by the church during this period of transition. With the exception of one or two, every society in connection with the church is stronger than it was one year ago. This is due to the loyal and effective co-operation of the officers and members of the various organizations. I also had more or less stenographic help. But the success of the work is due in great measure, to the willing helpfulness of the assistant pastor at Raymond Chapel, Rev. W. M. Embree. In coming to us last spring, to assume the responsibility of the Raymond Chapel work at an important and critical point in its history, Mr. Embree very evidently made a thorough dedication of his time and energies to the service upon which he entered. He has not only carried forward successfully his work on the Raymond field, but has given time and thought to the inter-

ests of the home church, and in his official capacity as editor of the *Church Journal* has proved his efficiency. I cannot speak too highly of his efforts in all the undertakings to which he has set his hand. As the teacher of our young men's class he has endeared himself to the hearts of an important section of our Sunday School constituency.

With the opening of the new year, I find my hands strengthened greatly through the coming of Miss Margaret Van Fleet, as church and Sunday School visitor. She will take up the work which was laid down by Miss Durfee, and has been lagging during the past year, in connection with the Sunday School, and will co-operate as well in the plans of systematic visitation which have recently been inaugurated. As a graduate of the Baptist Missionary Training School, and through business experience as well, she has fitted herself most admirably for the important position to which she comes in our church.

Mr. Roy Merrifield, a graduate of the University of Chicago, and at the present time a student in the Divinity School, will devote a large part of his time each week to visitation and other work, under my immediate supervision.

Through the valuable aid which I shall now have, my own labors will be greatly re-inforced, and the influence of our church will be broadened and strengthened in this entire community.

The Progress of the Year.

I call your attention to the fact that during the past year we have not only held our own but have made distinct advance in certain important particulars. To indicate these in brief:

1. We have perfected three new organizations, all of which are in a flourishing state.

2. We have solved the problem with reference to the future of our Raymond Chapel work, which confronted us at the opening of the year.

3. We have started, and carried successfully through its first year, a new church magazine, devoted entirely to the interests of our own activities and organizations.

4. The Benevolent Society and the Christian Endeavor Society have enjoyed a year of unusual power and success. The church parlors and Sunday School rooms are to be immediately refitted and re-decorated.

orated, a large part of the money being on hand through the efforts of the Benevolent Society.

5. The new Hand Book of our membership has been published, without any expense to the church.

6. A religious census of this entire neighborhood has been taken, under the direction of the pastor, and has put into our hands a large amount of information which may be used for the benefit of the church and its societies.

7. A system of district visitation has been perfected, and is already proving its great value.

8. The Men's League has taken up the question of social conditions in our neighborhood, and has appointed a strong committee, which has already begun a campaign against the evils which threaten.

New Organizations

The Lorimer class includes a large number of young men. It supplies a gap between the Boy's Club and the Men's League which had been lacking before. Its stability and growth have proved its right to enter the circle of our church societies.

The District Committee work deserves particular notice. The section of the city continuous to our church has been divided into twelve exactly-defined districts. A committee of four or five women, helpers and workers true and tried, has been appointed by the pastor, to have charge of the interests of the church in each district. It is the duty of each committee to become personally acquainted with all residents of its district who are members of our church and with all who attend our services. Each committee is to report cases of sickness and need, to be on the look-out for new people, to bring these into the fellowship of our church, either fully or partially, and to follow up all people in the district whose names are secured from the pastor, the church visitor, or other sources. A conference of the committees with the pastor and his assistants is held regularly every month. Every person appointed by the pastor in connection with this large plan of organized committee-work, has consented to serve, and most gratifying earnestness and enthusiasm have been shown by all who have aided in the inception of the enterprise. Committees are now being appointed in the outlying districts.

The Personal Worker's Band of the Christian Endeavor Society comprises a noble company of young people, who have pledged themselves to co-operate with the pastor in the conduct of the Sunday evening services and after-meetings. They are now planning and working successfully in various ways, and even already have proved themselves to be a veritable "Tenth Legion."

The Women's Societies

The Woman's Mission Circle has continued its regular meetings and its noble work, under the inspiring leadership of Mrs. Gillette. I trust that the contributions to foreign missions may be so increased that they shall equal the amount for home work. The programs carried out at the monthly gatherings have been exceedingly interesting and profitable. The Benevolent Society closes a year of really marvellous achievement. The raising of \$1,250 for Raymond Chapel, and \$820 for the improvement of the church parlors, and the multitude of helpful ministries in which the society has engaged, attest the consecration of the president, Mrs. Williams, and her faithful associates. During the Christmas bazaar, continuing for two days, our Sunday School room was transformed into a bower of beauty, as a result of Mrs. Marshall's careful planning and great executive skill; and with the help of many willing hands and hearts, the affair was a complete and notable success.

Other Societies

The Guild, under the guidance of Miss Ruby Day, attained an enviable degree of strength and enthusiasm. The introduction of class-work, the formation of a choral club, the excellent addresses given by various speakers, the large attendance, and the growing spirit of interest and co-operation, have given zest and an *esprit de corps* to the society. These tokens of good promise to continue and still further develop under the guidance of Miss Chandler, the new president.

The Men's League banquet last June was pronounced "the most brilliant social function ever held in the church." However this may be, it was in every way a delightful occasion. The Young Ladies' Missionary Society has followed its usual successful course. The Boy's Club has recently made a distinct advance, in securing the hearty and capable assistance

of Mr. L. R. Huntly in the drill work, and Mr. Messner of the Central Y. M. C. A., in other departments.

Raymond Chapel

In addition to all the regular expenses of the church we made a subscription of between \$8,000 and \$9,000, on the first day of May, for the purchase of a lot and the erection of a building on the Raymond field. In my last annual report I called attention to the crisis which faced us, and declared that all the wisdom of the church was needed to meet the emergency triumphantly. Through the blessing of God and in his strength we were enabled to face the emergency, to surmount the difficulties, and to win a victory which initiates a new era in the history of our Raymond work. The lot has been purchased, the excavations have been made, and the building will, we expect, be completed by the first of May. Deacon Wiggy has given time, thought and energy to the arduous duties of treasurer. Subscriptions aggregating more than the amount necessary to complete the building have been made. As some of these, however, are merely general pledges made by societies, much effort is still necessary in order that the full amount, in individual subscriptions, may be obtained. All branches of the Raymond work are in fine condition.

The New Church Paper

In my former pastorate I had witnessed the good effects of a distinctive church paper. A journal entitled "Church Work" had become a happy medium for the consummation of the spirit of the various church activities. We had here no such paper, the monthly bulletin, the "Baptist Record," sharing most of its pages with many other churches in the city, and consisting largely of homilies and extracts from sermons by Chicago pastors. Aided by the generous efforts of Mr. Parker and Mr. Bowman, I was able to establish, at the beginning of the year 1904, a 16 page monthly journal, entitled "Church Life," and devoted entirely to the history, plans, and interests, of our own church. Its value and success lead me to hope that its influence may now be more widely extended, and that we may be enabled so to enlarge our subscription list that the number of pages may be increased to twenty. A most valuable feature of the paper during the past year

has been Deacon Edward Goodman's illustrated history of the First Baptist Church. This alone is worth to us all many times the cost of the journal.

The Sunday School

Our Sunday School the past year has been full of most serious and difficult problems. A combination of circumstances is responsible for this fact. We dispensed with the services of a visitor or missionary, and in consequence of this the attendance began almost immediately to decrease. In addition to this, a large number of teachers and officers, for one cause and other, were obliged to lay down their work. For this neither the outgoing superintendent nor his successor was in any way responsible, as special and necessary reasons were the cause of the resignation of all those faithful people who were obliged to cease active work in this department at that time. Mr. Whitmore is giving a splendid direction to the great work of which he is the leader. During the past two months a fresh start has been made. The adult classes are under vigorous and wise leadership. A Teacher's training class, under the care of Mrs. Lamereaux, has been commenced. Miss Van Fleet begins her work as visitor with this new year. So the outlook is exceedingly promising.

The Neighborhood

If I should seek to express in two words the supreme needs of our church today, I would use the words neighborhood-work and personal-work. Again and again I have called attention to our responsibilities in our own particular section of the city. I believe that we are beginning to realize these responsibilities. Three agencies recently devised, the district committee work, the religious census, and the anti-vice committee of the Men's League, look toward this end. If we do not reach the unsaved, and the tempted youth of our neighborhood, if we are not even moving and struggling and planning to reach them, our preaching and praying, and giving to missions in China and India, are a mockery and an hypocrisy. We must remember, we must see, we must feel, the needs of those right about us. And we must pray for guidance and wisdom in seeking to solve the perplexing problems which this neighborhood presents.

A Final Word

In conclusion let me emphasize the supreme value of spiritual hand-to-hand work in behalf of the salvation of souls.

The supreme purpose for which we are in this church and in this world—is to win men and women to a living faith in the Divine Redeemer. We must pray more. We must read God's Book more. We must have a deeper spiritual life ourselves. We must make the real issue in all our church work the bringing of men to the foot of the cross.

I believe that God has great things in store for us this year. The beautiful spirit of unity, the warm-hearted fellowship everywhere manifest, the evident desire on the part of many, especially amongst the younger members, for a deeper consecration to the Master's service, are sure signs of our Lord's presence. May the Holy Spirit of the living Christ brook over our beloved church.

All of which is respectfully submitted,
Austen K. de Blois,
Pastor.

THE REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT PASTOR.

To the First Baptist Church.

Dear Brethren:—About nine months have passed since you called me to work with you in connection with the new movement at Raymond Chapel. They have been months in which epoch-making changes have been wrought for Raymond. Soon after I began my work Mr. Parker accepted a call to Boston, leaving the pastor without help at the home church. I have been glad to do all the extra service Dr. deBlois has asked me to do on this account and my work consequently has not lacked variety.

Church Life

One of the first things the pastor asked me to look after was the church paper, which had been so well started. The subscription list has grown until there are now about two hundred subscribers and new names are being added continually.

We hope to mail Church Life during the coming year to every family in our church and congregation, and to all the great host of those who have moved away but still wish to keep in touch with the life of the old home church.

We hope to improve the paper each

month in quality and interest. Greatly are we indebted to all who have contributed to the columns of Church Life and especially to our beloved Deacon Goodman who has been writing the history of the church. Before many weeks we hope he will be able to contribute the remaining chapters.

Receipts for the year	\$103.60
Disbursements	91.57

Bal. on hand	\$ 11.43
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The Lorimer Class

It has been a great privilege to teach a large class of such enterprising and enthusiastic young men as those who compose the Lorimer Class. The total enrollment is now over forty with an average attendance of about twenty-five.

The young men with the aid of the assistant teacher, Mr. Williamson, have proved themselves equal to anything they undertake.

Plans are being made for the extension of the influence of the class to all young men in our field.

A number of our boys have become Christians during the year.

The Church Calendar

The order of worship and calendar for which we are indebted to Mr. Donnelley is a small part of my work except for the time and attention it requires. No other Baptist Church in Chicago has such an excellent program and bulletin.

Pulpit Work

In addition to the regular Sunday evening service at Raymond I have assisted the pastor in the pulpit Sunday mornings, a courtesy which the members at Raymond greatly appreciated.

During the summer months I have preached several times at the home church and at other churches and have addressed the majority of the open air meetings conducted by the Christian Endeavor. I was privileged also to lead most of the prayer meetings when the pastor has been away. I attend three regular prayer meetings each week and often four.

The Work At Raymond

As you know I live on the Raymond field. Our home is a group of five who are all workers at Raymond or the home church. Many extra meetings such

as cottage prayer meetings, committee meetings, rehearsals and the like have been held at our home because there was no other place in which to meet during the week since the old building was vacated. We were very fortunate to be able to secure the use of Immanuel Presbyterian Church for our Sunday and Tuesday evening services, the Sunday evening service being a union meeting. Even in the temporary home our gatherings have been larger and better than when we were in the old building.

The Christian Endeavor Society especially has been greatly increased both in numbers and enthusiasm under the leadership of Mr. King.

The industrial school in charge of Mrs. Wigney could not take up its work last fall because they had no place in which to meet.

New Undertakings

Our waiting time has not been a resting time. On the contrary several new organizations have been started.

The Raymond Drill Corps numbering some thirty young ladies has been organized and Capt. Wiltshire has trained the young ladies to a high degree of skill in fancy drilling. By their own efforts they have raised over one hundred dollars with which their uniforms have been purchased.

We have started a teachers' study class on Tuesday evenings with the help of Mr. Coyle.

Our ladies have organized a Woman's Society under the leadership of Mrs. Freieigh which promises to be a most helpful addition to our working forces.

Pastoral Calls

We have not been trying to do aggressive work during this critical transitional period and hence most of my visiting has been among the 113 or more members on this field. Relief work and the distribution of benevolences have demanded considerable attention.

Mr. Coyle, Mrs. Wigney, Mrs. Lingle, and others have done most excellent work in calling among the people of this neighborhood.

The visiting committee of our Woman's Society of which Mrs. Embree is chairman has also done some work and before we go into the new building we will have made a canvass of every family within the reach of our work.

The Sunday School

I have been acting superintendent since last fall when Mr. Austermell was compelled to give up the work on account of poor health. We hope to have him back before many weeks have passed.

The attendance for the year has averaged about the same as that of last year when we were in the old building all the year. Great credit is due our faithful company of teachers and officers for their hard work in keeping the school together. We have recently lost our Primary superintendent, Miss Shrigley, who resigned because of poor health.

The treasurer Mr. Rader reports having received

From Collections	\$153.01
and Disbursed	136.13

Bal. on hand	\$ 16.88
Birthday Fund	14.50

Additions to the Church

There have been twenty-two additions to the First Church from Raymond. Two by letter, one by experience and of this number only seven were children.

The hope for many more additions this coming year is already assured.

The Outlook

It is safe to say that the prospects for the Raymond work never were brighter. We will be in our new building in a few more months.

The union with the First Church, the loyalty and love for her were never as strong as now and the future for Raymond is "as bright as the promises of God."

REPORT OF THE CHURCH CLERK.

To the First Baptist Church of Chicago.

Dear Brethren:—During the year 1904 we have received into our membership by,

Baptism	40
Letter	39
Experience	9
Restoration	2
—	
Total	90
We have lost from our membership by,	
Letter	44
Death	4
Erasure	7
—	
Total	55

.. The net gain in 1903 was only six while this year we rejoice in a net gain of thirty-five

Those who have been called to the Heavenly Father's home are: Miss F. A. Brooks, Mrs. Chas. Duffield, Mr. Ernest Foote, and Mr. S. M. Parrish. Early in the year Rev. W. M. Embree accepted our invitation to serve as assistant pastor in charge of Raymond Mission. On the first of May our assistant pastor, Rev. F. C. W. Parker, after nearly four years of faithful work left us to take up a similar work under Dr. Henson at Tremont Temple, Boston. The latter part of December, 1904, Miss Van Fleet was chosen as our Church and Sunday School visitor for the next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry F. Perkins,
Church Clerk.

construction of a new biulding.

The closing meeting in the old building we held the last Sunday in June and since that time we have shared the use of Immanuel Presbyterian Church where all the services have been held.

The Mission Committee have met repeatedly and have discussed the building of a new mission in all its bearings. Early in the summer a Building Committee was appointed who are still working on the plans. In October at a special called meeting of the church, the location was decided upon and the building site has been purchased for \$2,200, and is paid for. We hope that the construction of the new building will soon be begun. The Mission Committe wish to thank the church and all others who have contributed, for their kind sympathy and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Wm. Wigney,
Chairman Mission Com.

REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF MISSION COMMITTEE

The opening of the year found Raymond Mission without a pastor but energetically at work with Sunday School and evening services also Christian Endeavor Society with weekly meetings, weekly prayer meetings, and Industrial School on Saturday mornings. The Industrial School was closed in April, but all of the other services have been kept up regularly during the year. In April Rev. W. M. Embree was called to be assistant pastor in charge of the work at Raymond Chapel, which he has faithfully conducted during the year. Early in the year it became known that the Special Park Commission had selected the ground upon which the mission stood for a small park and in June the building was sold. The building and the land upon which it stood were the property of the City Mission Society and was subject to a mortgage. The society however upon the solicitation of Bro. Lingle very generously gave to the First Baptist Church the equity after paying off the mortgage, the sum amounting to upwards of \$1,500, to be used for a new chapel building.

On May 1st, at the close of the morning service, our pastor, Dr. de Blois, made an earnest appeal and effective appeal for funds to build a new chapel and succeeded in raising a sufficient sum to warrant the

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR RAYMOND CHAPEL.

Current Expense Account.

Receipts.

Bal. in treasury Jan'y 1, 1904....	\$ 118.17
From pledges and contributions..	689.22
From Basket collections	29.42
From First Baptist Church	100.00
	936.86

Disbursements.

Pastor's salary	633.27
Pulpit supplies	50.00
Janitor's services	72.00
Rent	126.00
Fuel	14.25
Gas	10.60
Sundry small bills	29.75
	935.87

Bal. in treasury Dec. 31.....	.99
	936.86

Liabilities.

For bill for 5 weeks' rent.....	30.00
Deficit	29.01

Building Fund Account.		Disbursements.	
Total pledges and contributions..	6369.36	Paid for Building Site	2200.00
Due from City Mission Society..	1560.00	Paid for printing and postage	23.10
	7823.96		
Receipts from all sources.....	4108.69	Bal. in treasury	2223.10
Bal. uncollected pledges, etc.....	3720.67		1885.50
			4108.60
	7823.96	Respectfully submitted,	
		Wm. Wigney, Treas.	

TREASURER'S REPORT.**Receipts and Disbursements.****Receipts.**

Cash on hand January 1, 1904		\$ 287.98
" from Basket collections	\$1,230.80	
" from Weekly Envclopes	1,636.36	
" from Rentals, pews and sittings	4,892.29	
" General Expense Fund	3,293.25	
		11,052.75
" Collected on Mtg. Highland Pk. lot		132.75

Benevolences

For Am. Baptist Missionary Union	\$387.09
" Am. Baptist Home Mission Society	205.96
" Am. Baptist Publication Society	58.67
" Baptist City Mission Society	40.00
" Chicago Tract Society	76.00
" State Missions	7.00
" N. W. Baptist Education Society	33.50
" Women's Christian Temperance Union	18.61
" The Central Howard Association	5.00
" Women's Mission Circle	9.04
" Thanksgiving Offering	15.66
" South Chicago Baptist Church	5.11
" Ambidexter Institute	5.22
" Rev. J. M. Mason	5.00
" Mrs. Lucy Ringler	9.35
	\$ 881.73
" Sunday School—special collection	
	312.82
	\$12,668.63

Disbursements

Paid Pastor's salary	\$5,000.00
" Pastor's Assistant Rev. F. C. W. Parker—4 months,	400.00
" for pulpit supplies	155.00
" Expenses of choir	1,964.00
" Janitor's Salary	600.00
" for lighting and heating church	1,441.00
" for repairs	427.34
" for printing, stationery and stamps	102.09
" for Pastor's Stenographer	250.00
" sundry small bills	182.97
	10,302.95
" Interest	375.00
" Taxes on Highland Park lot	3.21
" Special Asst. 1st instal. paving 31st St.	129.45
Deposited in Ill. T. and S. Bk. for Drake fund	182.50

Benevolences

Paid Am. Baptist Missionary Union	\$387 09
“ Am. Baptist Home Mission Society.....	205 96
“ Am. Baptist Publication Society.....	58 67
“ Baptist City Mission Society.....	40 00
“ Chicago Tract Society.....	76 00
“ State Mission.....	7 00
“ N. W. Baptist Education Society.....	33 80
“ Women's Christian Temperance Union.....	18 61
“ The Central Howard Association.....	5 00
“ Women's Mission Circle.....	9 04
“ Baptist Minister's Home—one-half Thanksgiving Offering..	7 83
“ South Park M. E. Church—one-half Thanksgiving Offering..	7 83
“ South Chicago Baptist Church.....	5 11
“ Ambidexter Institute.....	5 22
“ Rev. J. M. Mason.....	5 22
“ Mrs. Lucy Ringler	9 35
	—
“ Sunday School.....	500 00
“ Raymond Mission, special appropriation.....	100 00
“ Charities, charged to Drake Fund.....	55 20
	\$12,480 37
	—
Cash on hand December 31, 1904.....	187 66
	—
	\$12,668 03

Financial Statement.

Assets.

Cash on hand.....	\$187 66
Pew Rentals, considered good	350 00
Pledges, considered good	150 00
Remaining half Highland Park lot	500 00
Cash in Ill. Trust and Savings Bank for Drake Fund	460 31
Fifty feet land south of church building, cost.....	6,100 00
Balance due on Mt'g Highland Park lot	92 50
	\$7,840 47

Liabilities.

Amount owing Drake Fund	\$1026 35
First Mortgage on vacant lot	3000 00
Balance due on Second Mortgage	2750 00
Amount due on loan	500 00
	7276 35

Surplus

Insurance.

On meeting house	\$50,000 00
On furniture and fixtures	10,000 00
On organ	5,000 00
	65,000 00

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Rev. Austen K. de Blois, Ph. D.
Dear Pastor:

The result the past year has not been all that we had hoped for, but all that could be expected under the circumstances and conditions.

You will recall that my predecessor, in his annual report, stated that quite a number were laying down the work after years of faithful service. Though deeply regretted by their co-workers and themselves, it seemed absolutely necessary in each case. No one, unless actively identified with the school and in constant contact with the details of the work in the different departments, can have any conception of the loss sustained by the resignation of those referred to.

Experience and faithful service is as necessary to success in religious, as in secular enterprises—you cannot lose the heads of the different departments in large business establishments, without disorganizing the whole and causing temporary financial loss—no more can you lose those in charge of the different departments of the Sunday School without partially disrupting organization and system, and detracting from the efficiency of the work.

In addition to the losses referred to it has been a very busy year, with every one, in another direction of great importance and immediate necessity.

We mention these things not in a complaining or apologetical spirit, but that you may know, and not arrive at conclusions from surface indications, but go deeper, for underlying facts and conditions by which must be measured the degree of success or failure.

The report of the secretary and treasurer will give details pertaining to the business of their respective offices. I shall only touch on them in passing to a report on the work, conditions and needs of the different departments.

Enrollment and Attendance.

The report of the secretary shows quite a reduction in number enrolled, but quite an increase in per cent of attendance to enrollment. The loss in membership is to be regretted, but it may be of some consolation to know that this is not the only school that has suffered. There is not any question but what it is due very

largely to the fact of not having had any Sunday School visitor for the entire year. Constant visiting, either by one paid for the work or by volunteer service, is absolutely necessary in an ever changing and indifferent, religiously speaking, neighborhood such as ours.

The Primary Department has been the greatest sufferer; this is but natural as it is here that the visitor's efforts are most needed.

Finances

We have endeavored to be economical. More money could have been profitably used, but all things considered, we thought it wise to defer some plans.

From the treasurer's report we have the following:

General Fund.

Jan'y 1, 1904	Bal. on hand.....	\$ 15.70
	Receipits for year	1030.17
		1045.87
	General Expenses.....	729.34
	Appropriated for Benevolences..	240.00
		969.34

Jan'y 1, 1905, Bal. on hand to be appropriated later

76.53

Birthday Fund.

Jan'y 1, 1904.	On hand	149.97
	Received in 1904	127.52
		277.31

Paid Wm. Wigney, Teras. (Raymond Chapel

257.31

20.00

Jan'y 1, 1905. On hand

5.00

Special Funds.

Thanksgiving collection in cash and provisions	33.25
From Adult Bible Class (for Raymond Chapel)	59.50
From a friend (for Raymond Chapel)	5.00
	97.75

Supplied dinner for poor families

53.25

Paid Wm. Wigney, Treas. Raymond Chapel

64.00

97.75

**Collections and Donations not rec'd by
Treasurer.**

From Fisher Mission Band	219.61
From Lorimer Bible Class.....	30.50
From Guild Bible Class.....	16.00
	<hr/>
	266.11

Paid Wm. Wigney, Treas. Raymond Chapel.....	171.50
Sent Bro. Fisher for work in Japan	65.00
Paid Miss Pickett for work among Chinese	20.00
	<hr/>
	256.50

Balance	9.61
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Recapitulation.

Receipts from all sources	1671.34
Paid for Expenses	729.34
Paid for Benevolences	851.56
	<hr/>
	1580.00

Balance	90.44
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The collection taken b^y the church last year, amounted to \$253.17 as compared with \$500.00 the year before.

The trustees very generously and cheerfully have given the sum of \$246.83 making the total the same as last year. This act on their part is deeply appreciated, and we thank them most heartily. We trust the church will respond so readily and liberally this year, that it will not be necessary to call on the trustees.

Cradle Roll

Smallest in number and we might say of the least importance, temporarily, is the Cradle Roll or the nursery of the church.

Mrs. S. C. King, by whose faithful and earnest work, many names were added, moved to Oregon last fall, and we are looking for the right one to fill her place.

The additions the past year have been 13, making number enrolled about 45.

We urge you to look well after the nursery of your church, for it is the foundation on which the future church must rest.

Junior Primary

One of the most important and the most interesting and attractive departments of our school is the Junior Primary. It is in this department that the real work for the Master begins; on the training and

religious instruction here depends largely the future destiny of the child, and the future growth and spiritual prosperity of the church. It was some months before we found the right one to take charge and carry on the work in which Mrs. Atwell had been so very successful. Our patience was at last rewarded; and now under the watchful care and faithful service of Mrs. A. E. Thomas, it is again growing and flourishing, graduating twenty-five into the Primary Department this fall, and having an enrollment, December 30th, of seventy-five. May God continue to guide and bless the work for the little ones.

Primary Department

Undoubtedly the most difficult department in which to maintain order and discipline is the Primary. It is in this department, more than any other, where firmness, combined with love, patience, and tact on the part of officers and teachers is absolutely necessary.

Bro. J. A. Hessler acted as superintendent until March 30th, when he was duly elected by the church as one of the assistant superintendents of the school and placed in charge of this department; where he has labored faithfully and conscientiously under many disadvantages. He had no assistant until last October, when Miss M. E. Young, who had served so faithfully in this capacity for some years prior to December, 1903, was appointed.

Bro. Harry Williamson, who for many years had charge of the secretary's work under Bro. Tomlinson, united with another church the latter part of 1903, and his place was filled by Bro. Ira Humphrey until last fall, when he resigned expecting to take up what he thought a more helpful work. His place was filled by the appointment of Bro. Dr. Frank Gale.

We cannot expect success without order and attention, and this can only be secured through the efforts of the teacher, with each individual scholar.

Firmness, also promptness in opening and closing, is part of the necessary discipline, and for this we look to the superintendent and his officers.

From several years' experience as assistant superintendent of this department, I fully appreciate the difficulties one has to contend with, and I also appreciate the value of earnest, loving and loyal teachers

CHURCH LIFE.

and officers, and no superintendent was ever blessed with the hearty co-operation of such more than I. With such co-workers, and with enthusiasm and love for the work, by the superintendent and with the advantages experience brings, you can look forward to increased attendance and improvement in this department.

Intermediate Department

There are serious and difficult problems confronting us all along the line, and none more important or difficult than those found in the Intermediate Department.

What can we do to hold these scholars and win their souls for the Master? This is a most important question and most difficult to answer. It is the most critical time of their lives; if they are not saved now, and get away from the church and religious influence the chances are that they will be spiritually, and possibly morally, lost.

As a rule the great question for life and eternity is decided by them while in this department—they step from here into the church or into the world—how important this step to each and every one; may God give us wisdom, and, guiding us by the Holy Spirit, enable us to lead them to take the step that leadeth to everlasting life. How great then is the responsibility resting on every officer and teacher of this department.

We may wish for a larger school, and deeply regret the loss of scholars, but far more important is the number of souls won and much more to be regretted is the loss of one soul, than the loss of any numbers of names enrolled where souls are not saved.

That there is a deep and growing spiritual interest on the part of both teacher and scholar, is evident by the number of baptisms the past year—some twenty-three—and also by the response on decision day.

You could not place in this department, one more worthy of your confidence, or one who has a deeper love for the work, or a higher ideal of Christian life, than Bro. Jas. Barron; with his hearty co-operation, we hope, with God's help and guidance, to see a marked improvement in many ways the coming year.

Bible Classes

We have much to be thankful for in the

number of our Bible classes and the interest and enthusiasm manifested.

The adult Bible class, under the leadership of Deacon Ahrens is growing in numbers and interest, and we cordially invite those of our church who desire to study God's word under an able and devout teacher to unite with it. We would also earnestly request all present members to make every effort to increase its membership.

The Amoret Henson Guild class formerly taught by Mrs. H. E. Googins, who, by her knowledge of the Bible and ability to impart that knowledge to others, gathered about her a most interesting and beautiful class of young ladies, all deeply interested in the study of God's word. Much to our regret, that of the class and to Mrs. Googins as well, she was obliged, from poor health, to give up the work about the middle of the year.

We were all very anxious to find one worthy to succeed her; finally such an one in the person of Miss Van Fleet, was cordially welcomed. The young ladies have rallied loyally to her support, and a deep and growing interest is manifested and a great influence for the Master is going out from the class, which, we trust, will reach many of the young ladies in our neighborhood, and draw them to the school and into the church.

There has been organized the past year the Lorimer class. Its membership is composed of young men between the ages of sixteen and twenty years, just the age when the future looks bright and full of hope, and they are making the best use of its brightness and hopefulness for the Master's service. Many are already members of the church, and we feel that it will be but a short time when the membership will be doubled and every member enrolled on the Lord's side.

Bro. Embree, our assistant pastor, assisted by Bro. Cassius Williamson, has charge of this class, and partakes of the enthusiasm, exhibited by every member, and they are to be congratulated on the success attained.

Miss Elizabeth Pickett has a large and most interesting class of young ladies from the age of fourteen to eighteen. All who know Miss Pickett's devotion to the work, and ability to instruct and hold her scholars, are expecting to see this one of our largest classes and through its example and influence many souls saved.

Home Department

The active workers, will readily appreciate the loss sustained, not only by the Home Department, but by the entire school, when, in April, our Assistant Pastor Parker left us, and later, Bro. Williams resigned as secretary.

We can ill afford to lose such members; workers on whom you can count every time are not plentiful, and their loss can only be measured by their invaluable service.

We are deeply indebted to Miss Blanche Pickett for her faithfulness as assistant secretary, and much regret that she felt it necessary to resign.

Some two months or more ago Bro. H. F. Googins was appointed superintendent to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Bro. Parker. We will most heartily welcome Bro. Googins as a co-worker; Sunday School work is not new to him, and the experience he brings, together with his determination to do promptly and thoroughly every thing undertaken, assures us of the continued success of this department.

At the beginning of the year we had an enrollment of about two hundred and fifty. At present there are about two hundred members. During the year ten have united with the regular Sunday School as teachers or pupils; twenty have left the city, and two, Mrs. Lomis and Mrs. Dufield, have died. One hundred and fifty quarterlies are distributed by fifteen visitors and fifty are sent by mail.

A secretary to succeed Bro. Williams has not yet been selected.

Special Days and Entertainments.

The usual special days were observed in both departments with appropriate exercises.

The picnic was held this year at Jackson Park, thus avoiding the danger attending an excursion on the railroad and enabling many to attend who could not do so if held out of the city. The morning was a rainy one, which prevented many from going who otherwise would, but those there seemed to have a very enjoyable time.

The Christmas entertainment was an unusually good one, and the attendance very gratifying; some five hundred venturing out, in a seventy mile an hour breeze from the northwest, on the night of Tuesday, December 27th.

All special services and entertainments the past year have been of that high order for which the First Baptist Church Sunday School is noted.

We are deeply indebted to the various committees, also to those taking part, for the benefit and pleasure derived as a result of their efforts.

Fisher Mission Band

We feel that we can safely and justly regard the Fisher Mission Band, as one of our prominent and permanent missionary organizations.

Every Sunday the members are transferring their pennies from candy and soda, to benevolence, and we hope their affection is being likewise transferred.

This little band was the first to respond to the call for funds for Raymond Chapel, and was enabled to send to Deacon Wigney, treasurer, through an entertainment given, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars; in addition to this they have saved and contributed of their pennies, since they organized, about one year and a half ago, the sum of one hundred and sixty-seven dollars and forty-nine cents, of which eighty dollars was sent to Bro. Fisher for his work in Japan, twenty to Miss Pickett for her work among the Chinese, and there is a balance on hand of sixty-seven dollars and forty-nine cents.

We would urge those in charge of the Primary Department, and their successors, to make every effort to continue the interest of the little ones in this work for the Master.

Our Losses

We are very thankful that death has not removed any from among us the past year, but regret that our loss in good and faithful teachers and workers has been heavy; on many of whom we depended for advice and hard work.

We regret that Bro. Robert Pickett feels that business duties will prevent his assuming any specific work; we thank him heartily for his valuable services in the past, and trust he will be with us as often as possible in the future.

New Departures

We have adopted the envelope system, as used in the church, for weekly collection. This change was made for two reasons: First, from our pastor's experience in the Sunday School at Elgin, we

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believe it will increase the amount of our collection; and second, that it will be the means of partially, if not wholly, breaking up a bad and dangerous habit, which has been increasing among the children, especially those of the Primary Department, for the past two or three years, of spending or retaining part of the money given them for the Sunday School. We felt it a duty we owed to the parents and the child, to prevent, if possible, such deception and dishonesty. The experiment has not been long enough tried to forecast results, but we believe time will prove it was a step in the right direction and an effective one.

Last fall it was decided to form a Teacher's Instruction class that those who desired to teach might be taught the necessary qualifications of a teacher, and also taught how to give the lesson from week to week. It meets every Monday evening, in the room of the Intermediate Department of our school, at eight o'clock.

It is not necessary for me to speak of the great benefit to be derived by those who attend. Those who have attended regularly will vouch for the statement, that it is a rare opportunity and aids mightily in teaching, in addition to developing the mind and heart, along spiritual lines, which soon tells for the Master with the scholars.

Mrs. Lamoraux has charge of this class and no words of mine could add to her reputation as a teacher. The regular attendance averages about fifty; our only regret is that more of our teachers have not been able to attend. The expense has prevented some from doing so, and we wish we could have made it free to all, but they are cordially invited to join whether they can afford to pay anything or not.

The past year the teachers and officers in the Intermediate Department thought they would make a new departure with reference to song books, so they contributed a sufficient sum to purchase same, and authorized Bro. Leland to make the selection. The decided improvement in the singing is conclusive evidence that the change as well as the selection was wise. Many decided to depart from an old custom of being late and as a result there is quite an improvement in early attendance, for which all feel grateful. The five minutes' talk by the pastor at the close of the lesson is very helpful to all.

Decision Day

We have had but one day that could be termed Decision Day, and that was on Sunday, January first of this year. (1905).

The pastor gave a very interesting talk on the importance of deciding the great question, and set forth in clear and searching words the advantages in deciding at once. He was listened to with deep interest, and when he made the appeal, in the name of the Master, for those who desired to follow and serve Him, to rise, quite a large number stood, and afterward signed cards to the same effect. As a result of this expression, we look for many baptisms in the near future.

Our Needs

We need faithful, consecrated workers in every capacity and department; and urgently request all who have a love for the work, and are willing to make such sacrifices as are necessary to accomplish the object in view, to hand in their names at an early day; they will be most cordially welcomed.

We need the encouragement, sympathy and assistance of every member of the church, and earnestly ask the same; but above all we ask your prayers, that the Lord will richly bless our efforts, and give us souls for our hire.

The Outlook

We take a most cheerful view of the future. The field is large and one where an immense amount of effective work is badly needed. That it is a most difficult one to work successfully in, is granted by all; but the more obstacles we have to overcome, the greater should be the effort and determination. With Miss Van Fleet's services as Sunday School visitor, we look forward to a large addition to our enrollment, and if we are prepared with a corps of teachers who can and will hold the scholars, we fail to see anything before us but success.

In Conclusion

I want to thank every officer and teacher for their courtesy, kindness, and loyalty, and for their faithfulness to duty; and wish each and all a most happy and prosperous New Year.

Respectfully submitted,
C. E. Whitmore, Supt.
Chicago, Jan. 11th, 1905.

Report of the Secretary.
December 31, 1904

Mr. C. E. Whitmore.

Dear Sir:—I hereby submit my report as secretary of the First Baptist Church Sunday School, for the year ending December 31, 1904. The records show the following statistics:

Enrollment

	1904.	1903.	1902.
Primary Department (including Infant class)	319	375	369
Intermediate Dept. (including Bible classes)	263	363	292
Total enrollment of school	562	739	651

Average Attendance

Primary Depart. (including Infant Class)	223.33	262.	279.15
Intermediate Dept. (inc. Bible Classes)	167.3	189.46	195.85
Total Average Attendance of the School	390.63	451.46	475.
Percentage of Enrollment in Average Attendance	67.1.	61.17.	73.96.

Graduated

From Infant Class to Primary Department	25	43	25
From Primary to Intermediate Dept.	36	29	45
Scholars received in church membership	23	17	3
Enrollment of the Home Department	208	276	

This is as the year's work looks in figures but the results, the good done, will never be known to us except as separate instances come to our notice. It is with regret that I leave this work, I have come into a large acquaintance with the individual members of the school, and have come to love many of them, but it is impossible for me to serve longer in this capacity.

In behalf of the work I love, I ask through you the most hearty co-operation possible of the church with those in charge of this most important branch of our church life.

Faithfully submitted,

Robt. J. Pickett.

REPORT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

Rev. Austin K. de Blois, Ph. D.

My Dear Pastor:—It gives me great pleasure to hand to you the annual report of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. We feel that as a society we are slowly and steadily advancing. We have 80 members. We have held 17 meetings with an average attendance of 72.

We have by means of our yearly membership dues, individual contributions, afternoon tea, a lecture, Men's League dinner, a musical and literary entertainment, and a bazaar received \$2,322.41. We have expended \$1,473.87; balance \$848.54. We have completed 415 garments, 72 comforters and 36 quilts. 159 new garments, 151 old garments, and 12 comforters have been given out.

The Lookout Committee have given 10 names to the chairman of the Visiting Committee.

The visiting committee have made 600 calls.

We sent a box of bedding to Leland University, and contributed to the box sent to the frontier by our Mission Circle. Clothing has been made and repairing done for the study in our own church and Sunday School. We have supplied new linens for our room at the Training School. We gave two comforters to the Home for the Friendless. Fifty of our members spent a day sewing at the Baptist Hospital. Sewing has been done for the little people in the Home for Missionaries' Children, and also for the School Children's Aid Society. Orders have been filled for agates, comforters, quilts and children's dresses.

A reception to Rev. and Mrs. F. C. W. Parker was given under the auspices of this society. The future looks encouraging, and we hope by picking up the bits of work as they are presented to us during the year 1905 to carry hope, joy and happiness to many who are discouraged and needy.

Mrs. P. B. Morgan,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE C. E. SOCIETY.

Rev. Austin K. de Blois, Ph. D.

Dear Pastor:—It is with great pleasure that I hand you a report of the past year's work.

It has been a very prosperous season for

CHURCH LIFE

our Christian Endeavor Society, and I believe that we have all grown stronger in spiritual matters as well as in organization.

As president for the first six months Mr. J. A. Hessler led us in many plans of work which are being most successfully carried out. We are very sorry that the call to other branches of church work has taken this genial and successful worker from many branches of our department.

At the opening of the year the trustees came to us asking that our members make a pledge toward the current expenses of the church. In response to this appeal a pledge of two hundred and fifty dollars was made.

Raymond Mission Building Fund

At the services on that memorable first day of May, when the appeal was made to the members and organizations of the church for \$10,000.00 to erect a new building for Raymond Chapel, our Christian Endeavor Society responded by pledging to raise \$1,000.00, one-tenth of the entire sum.

A special committee was appointed by the president to have in charge the raising of this sum. At the close of the year we can report that the sum so far raised is \$717.00, nearly three-quarters of the entire amount pledged. We are sure to raise the ballance of the \$1,000.00 by May first, 1905.

Several different plans of raising the money were resorted to. First and most important was the personal pledges. These amount to \$400.00. In August our society gave an excursion across the lake to Michigan City. Because of the rainy day, we believe this enterprise netted us but about one-fourth of what it would have done if we had had a bright day. As it was the proceeds amounted to \$55.55. A social given early in the fall brought us \$22.00. Last October the young ladies of our society served the dinner at the fall banquet of the Men's League. Because dinner was provided for 100, and only a few over half that number were present, we fell short again of what we had hoped to clear, and the profit from this piece of work was only \$20.22.

In November the committee undertook the task of preparing the new hand-book for the church. As a result of the advertisements, we paid for the printing and cleared \$100.00. Many thanks are due our pastor, for the many hours given to

this work. Also to Mr. Clark for his assistance in securing advertisements. I cannot report of the work of this committee without mentioning the great amount of time and energy given by the chairman, Mr. W. H. Vallette. Much of the success of the work is due to his efforts.

This undertaking has proved a source of new life to our society, and we feel grateful that we can assist in this work for our Church Mission. May God bless Raymond Chapel.

Open Air Work.

As it has been our privilege for some years past, we again held open air evangelistic meetings, at the church entrance as long as the weather permitted us to do so. These meetings were held throughout the summer from the latter part of June through the middle of September. Besides our pastor and assistant pastor, several other Baptist ministers and evangelistic workers addressed the gathered listeners under the open skies. It was a great joy to see several brought to Jesus Christ at these meetings. As at all meetings of this nature the seed is sown, but we are not permitted to see much of the growth or the harvest.

Increase in Membership

Another source of great satisfaction to us is the great increase of members. We report for the 12 months, 47 new members, consisting of 41 active and 6 associate. In connection with the increased work of the society, we succeeded in carrying away the increase banner three consecutive times at the rallies of the South Division of the Chicago C. E. Union. The third time it was turned over to us to be permanent property. It was captured by our society in competition with some 30 or 40 other societies of the South Division. At the July Rally we reported 9 new members, in September 20, and November 12.

In the summer we set before us the aim to raise our membership to 100. When we started out in this enterprise we had 56 members which with the 47 additions, would at this time have given us 103 working members. But owing to the inevitable cutting down of the list by dropping and transferring to the absent and honorary membership rolls the figures are reduced to 81. I hope we shall be able to report 100 per cent gain over the 56 mem-

bership of last June, at the International C. E. Convention to be held at Baltimore, Md., next July.

The membership at present is 74 active, 7 associate, making a working membership of 81 members, besides 14 on the absent list and 31 honorary members, which gives our Senior Society a total membership of 126.

Personal Workers Committee

In response to our pastor's appeal for assistance in the evening service, a committee of five was appointed to confer with the pastor. The result is that today we have a strong committee of Personal Workers, with Mr. Arthur as chairman. This committee was lately enlarged to twenty, with the privilege of allowing as many as desire to join this excellent work. Our duty is to assist in the Sunday evening services by meeting the strangers and getting as many as possible to attend the after meeting, and to get hold of others after this meeting. Each member of the committee has signed a pledge promising to attend every Sunday evening meeting till the close of May, and to give a testimony in the after meeting if the opportunity offers. I believe that this committee under the leadership of Mr. Arthur is doing and will continue to do one of the best works of this kind the church has ever seen. He has many plans of work that will assist in making the evening services a greater success than ever. We are willing to give time and money to the furtherance of this work.

Other Activities of the Society

The various committees besides the Lookout, Building Fund, and Personal Workers committees mentioned above have given excellent service and have helped to make the work of the society successful and helpful. The Prayer meeting, Missionary, Social and Music committees have done much towards making the Friday evening prayer meeting successful.

Our Missionary Committee has raised from our gifts to home and foreign missions, the amount of \$145.00, of this \$22.75 goes to the Central Baptist Chinese Mission of Chicago. \$102.25 goes to Foreign Missions, and \$10 to World Wide Christian Endeavor Work.

Intermediate Society

In October a new Intermediate Society

was formed under the leadership of Mr. C. J. Williamson and Miss Elizabeth Pickett. The superintendent reports that two thirds of the membership is made up of young men. This is something very much out of the ordinary. The society was organized with 16 charter members. Their treasurer reports that \$8.36 has been raised in two and a half months. Disbursements amount to \$4.05.

Junior Societies

The Junior Society under the direction of Miss Frances Googins is doing very good work. These little servants of our Master, go to the Baptist Hospital every Sunday, after their meeting, to deliver their little papers and to cheer the patients with the sunshine of their bright faces. What can bring more cheer to the suffering patients than the sweet sympathy of the little ones. The Juniors have pledged \$12 to the Mission Building Fund, half of which is paid.

The Sunshine Band has during the year been under the leadership of Mrs. Ketman, Mrs. King, and at the present time Mrs. Hamlin. These little ones come together each Sunday to learn of the dear Master, and also delight to bring their pennies to help in His work. They sent 91 cents to the orphanage during the past month.

The treasurer reports as follows:
 Balance on hand from year of 1903, \$ 16.44
 Receipts for Society expenses 53.02
 Receipts for Missionary work 145.00
 Cash & Pledges for Building Fund, 717.00

Total Receipts	\$931.46
Pledge for current expenses of	
Church	250.00
Total	1,181.46
Disbursements, Society expenses ..	65.73
Balance on hand Dec. 31, '04 ..	3.73

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur R. Rheniseh,
President.

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S MISSION CIRCLE FOR YEAR ENDING JANUARY FIRST 1905

Rev. Austen K. de Blois, Ph. D.

Dear Pastor:—The Womens' Mission Circle has held ten meetings during the year with an average attendance of sixty-four.

The programs have alternated between

CHURCH LIFE.

home and foreign missions. The home fields studied have been Alaska, the receiving of immigrants at Ellis Island, and the Syrian people of our own city.

The study of China has extended through the year and has brought before us its history, peoples, religions and the efforts of our own denomination to reach this country by the gospel.

The social gatherings which occur in connection with the circle four times during the year, have been a pleasure and benefit to the circle.

Twice during the year musical programs have been furnished which have acquainted us with the origin of many of our hymns.

The treasurer reports receipts for Home Missions \$414.31
for Foreign Missions 200.32

Jennie M. C. Lingle,
Secretary.

ARMORET HENSON GUILD

Rev. Austen K. de Blois.

Dear Pastor:—The Amoret Henson have held nine meetings during the year. The membership is 104, an increase of 26 over last year. Receipts for the year were \$145.80; \$106.05 of this were realized from an entertainment held February 25; \$100 was subscribed in May by the Guild for Raymond Chapel payable before May, 1905. A Glee Club under the direction of Professor Havens has been organized which meets for practise every week. The membership of this club is 26.

Respectfully submitted,
Frances M. Googins,
Secretary.

THE LORIMER CLASS

Rev. Austen K. de Blois.

Dear Pastor:—Last January, under the leadership of Cassius J. Williamson and Robert J. Pickett, a Sunday School class for young men fifteen years of age and over was organized. The object of the class is to get young men interested in the Sunday School and church, and hold them there by whatever means are possible. There was need for such an organization in our church, and this, coupled with the fact that like organizations were being conducted with great success in other churches, brought about its formation.

To the officers of the Onward Class of the Belden Avenue Baptist Church, and

its able teacher, Dr. Chandler, the Lorimer Class is justly grateful for their valuable suggestions received at that time.

By uniting Mr. Allen's, Mr. Williamson's and Mr. Gaylord's classes with a scattering few from the rest of the Sunday School, the class was started in the large northeast room in the Sunday School. Mr. Allen, who taught us about two months, was succeeded by Mr. Embree, who, despite his many other duties, has served us and led us most faithfully ever since.

Our present enrollment is thirty-one. The average Sunday morning attendance is twenty-five, and that of Monday evenings somewhat less. It has been necessary, to accomplish our object, to provide more than the regular Sunday Bible class meetings. The boys have enjoyed the Monday evening meetings exceedingly, mainly for their sociability. Here, those who had no better place, spent the evening in good company and under good influences. Sometimes we had special programs. Twice, Dr. de Blois gave helpful talks. On October 10th, the class gave its first social, which was attended by one hundred and fourteen young people.

In September the name "Onward Class," not original with our class, was changed to "Lorimer Class," in memory of the late Rev. Geo. C. Lorimer, former pastor of our church and a great leader of our denomination.

Last May, the class pledged to raise \$100 for the new Raymond Chapel. Part has been raised through individual pledges. The entertainment successfully given December 15th, helped materially to swell the fund. There is now \$40.50 cash in the treasurer's hands, and pledges to the amount of \$40.50 more, still unpaid.

Our baseball team, organized last spring, successfully played out the season, standing third in a league of six Sunday School classes of city churches. Wherever possible, great stress has been laid on the importance of athletics in an organization like ours. To this fact we owe in great measure what success we have had last year. The one need of this church and community at present, which cannot be overlooked, is a gymnasium. That the mind of the average youth turns first to athletics is more true today than ever before. To the recognition of this fact all successful clubs and secular organizations for young men, most of which indu-

ence for bad rather than for good, owe their popularity. How, then, can we expect to compete with these other influences, and hope to benefit young men morally or intellectually, unless, recognizing this fact, we first get hold of them by appeal to their physical nature. The Men's League is thoroughly in sympathy with the idea, and hopes sometime in the future to be able to take steps toward the realization of the need.

The past year has been all that could have been hoped, for a starter. We commence the new year with Mr. Henry B. Chase as president, believing that with God's guidance and the moral support of the church we will go forward to much greater accomplishments than were scored during last year.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Leland,
President.

BOYS' CLUB.

Chicago, January 5, 1904.

Rev. Austen K. de Blois, Ph. D.

Dear Pastor:—The Boys' Club take pleasure in reporting to you the work of the past year.

This year of our work has been a very interesting and helpful one. We are sure that the boys have been greatly benefitted by our Saturday evening meetings. It has been twelve months of quite steady work. Mr. Samuel Lingle was president during the first term.

The first six months brought many difficulties for us to master. It was a season when many of our old members dropped out of our organization and took up the work of the Lorimer Class. It was a

time when all efforts were made to hold the work, rather than to enlarge it.

As is customary, we discontinued our meetings during the vacation months of July and August. After the election of officers in the fall, the work was taken up with much interest by all members. In December the Club decided to raise the monthly dues from 5 cents to 10 cents.

Mr. L. R. Huntley very kindly offered to continue the military drill. By his genial disposition he has won the confidence and good will of the boys, and by the way they drilled at the last meeting, they showed that they found considerable enjoyment in the work.

Early in December, Mr. J. R. Messner was secured to direct the athletic department of our work. His services were secured through the kindness of Mr. White, Religious Word Director of Central Y. M. C. A., and we feel greatly indebted to him for giving us so good a worker as Mr. Messner is proving himself to be. He comes from the Association gymnasium, and is proving himself a capable leader, and is already greatly liked by the boys. The athletic work is the part of our meetings in which the boys take the greatest delight.

The secretary reports 30 members.

The treasurer reports for the year as follows:

Balance on hand for year of 1903, \$45.56	9.90
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Receipts this year	9.90
Total	\$55.46
Total expenditures	34.23

Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1904, ...	\$21.23
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Respectfully submitted,

Roy Todd,
President.



The Church at Work

Christian Endeavor

Miss E. M. Pickett, Dept. Editor

This last month of the year is the busiest we all agree, and also a time for deep thinking concerning the profitableness of our labors. Looking candidly at the results of a year's work as we know them, to judge of its worth, we find ourselves

wishing that we had done more and better work. Still we can justly congratulate ourselves upon the progress we have made this year, and look forward with great hope, and renewed ambition to the coming months. As Carlyle advises: "Let a man

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do his work, the fruit of it is the care of another than he."

With the new year we begin a new term of work, and the officers elected Friday, December 9th, take up their responsibilities, trusting in God for strength, and the Christian Endeavorers for co-operation; let each count one for Christ. "Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you." "I have chosen you, that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, He may give it you."

The new officers for the coming six months are:

President—Mr. A. R. Rhenisch

Vice Pres.—Mr. G. C. Arthur

Recording Secy.—Miss Maud Robinson

Corresponding Secy.—Miss Blanche Harvey

Treasurer—Miss Christine MacFadden

Junior Supt.—Miss Frances Googins

Intermediate Supt.—Mr. C. E. Williamson

The chairman of the Lookout Committee—Mr. Robert Leland

Prayer Meeting Committee—Miss Elizabeth M. Pickett

Social Committee—Miss Mabel Moors

Missionary Committee—Miss Helen A. Pickett

Yokefellow Committee—Mr. Ernst Hartung.

Good Literature Committee—Miss Edith Gale

Visiting Committee—Mrs. J. E. Steele

Sunday School Committee—Miss Daisy Marx

Music Committee—Miss Blanche Pickett

Friday evening, December 20th, this new executive committee met at the home of the Misses Pickett and chose the members of the committees for the new term. The large attendance, enthusiasm and earnestness augurs well for the work of 1905.

We made several new records this last year which we intend to equal, and even surpass in the coming year.

A number of our members have signed the following pledge, and the results of their work are already felt among us:

"I hereby promise to be present, unless absolutely prevented, at every Sunday evening preaching services and after meeting until May 31st 1905; to invite at least one stranger or visitor to remain to the service each Sunday evening, and to take part in the after meeting if there is opportunity."

Mr. Arthur, our new vice president, is chairman of this personal work committee, and will be glad to receive your pledge to share this work with us.

The last meeting of the year was a most interesting and profitable one. Miss Henry of Maryville College, Tennessee, continued her story of the work among the mountain whites. She was one of them herself, and is seeking to do for others what was done for her. The account of the dense ignorance and superstition of those people, who are descendants of our purest American blood, among the most beautiful valleys interest us greatly. At the close of the meeting we enjoyed a social hour. Some very interesting games, and chocolate provided by the social committee assisted us to become better acquainted and to spend a very pleasant hour together.

Intermediate Society

We have held meetings regularly every Sunday evening at 7 o'clock that have been interesting and well attended. New officers were elected on December 18th for the next six months.

Mr. Julius Lackner—President

Miss Jessie Burchett—Vice President

Miss Helen Angus—Secretary

Miss Hattie Todd—Treasurer

Miss Lillian Linihan—Lookout Committee

Mrs. Samuel Lingle—Prayer Meeting Committee

Mr. Adrian Webster—Social Committee

Mr. Robert Leland—Missionary Committee.

South Division C. E. Union will hold a Missionary Rally on January 19th, Thursday evening at 7:45, at the Sixth Presbyterian Church, 36th and Vincennes Ave. Dr. de Blois will give the address. Let all who can possibly do so plan to be present.



Women's Mission Circle

Mrs. L. B. Lingle, Dept. Editor

The Woman's Mission Circle held its annual praise service on December ninth.

The occasion seemed peculiarly pleasant even to those of the Circle who looked backward to many similar gatherings. Old friends were present who cannot regularly attend the Circle. The Junior class of the Training School, fifty-two in number, who were our guests, were in themselves an in-

spiration to thankfulness and hopefulness. The rich oriental decorations were pleasing to the eye and the musical program consisted of well known hymns written by women and used in evangelism. The incidents that called them forth were given and the hymns sung. Miss Jackson told of Mrs. Elizabeth Codner, an English authoress, who wrote, "Lord, I Hear of Showers of Blessing," during the progress of a revival in Ireland.

Mrs. Lumley gave an account of Fannie Crosby's life and her very numerous contributions to our sacred songs. Mrs. Atwell spoke of the thrilling incidents that inspired Mrs. Julia Ward Howe to write the Battle Hymn of the Republic, and Mrs. Googins read Adelaide Proctor's beautiful poem on thankfulness.

Mrs. Downe gave us the translation of the oldest song known, the national song of China, written by Confucius, afterward singing it in the original.

Miss Van Fleet in giving the causes for thankfulness on the home field, spoke of the great work of the three training schools of the society, two in the south, and the one in our own city, of the twenty-five new fields opened, of the converts among the Hopi Indians.

Mrs. Stearns of the Memorial Church, gave the causes for thankfulness on the foreign field and mentioned the converts among the high caste people in India, the increase of self-support, and the recent gift of \$5,000 by an unknown donor to build a hospital in China.

The treasurer reported the contents of the thank offering boxes to be \$61.33.

The Mispah benediction closed the program, a delightful social gathering followed at which Mrs. Donnelley and Mrs. Chandler presided. One hundred and eighteen were present.

The Mission Circle plan an old-time concert to be given on or about February 21. Some fine talent is promised to assist the choir of the circle and we will all enjoy the songs of long ago. This is the first effort of the Circle to raise money for missions outside of the regular contribution of the members, and it is hoped our apportionment may be reached this year by this means.

The old-time concert planned by the Women's Mission Circle for February 21st promises to be a unique and delightful affair. Excellent talent will assist the

choir of the Circle. The Young Ladies' Glee Club will participate, many of them in costumes of several generations ago. The adornments of the women also will suggest the early history of our country, and above all, the sweet old songs of long ago will not fail to charm all who have the opportunity to attend.

The February meeting of the Mission Circle held on the tenth, is the annual meeting, when reports will be heard and plans for the year made. It is especially desired that a large number attend.



Young Ladies' Missionary Society

May E. Fralick, Dept. Editor.

On December, the fourteenth, the society met at the home of Miss Edith Gale. The girls cut out pictures from old magazines: these are to be pasted in scrapbooks and sent to the Japanese hospitals for wounded soldiers. Everyone present was very much interested in the work.

The next meeting, on January the fourth, was held at the home of the Misses Blanche and Marion Pickett. The afternoon was spent in hemming towels and making button-holes in saceres for the Baptist Hospital. A number of the girls were kept away by severe colds; but all those present enjoyed a pleasant and profitable afternoon.

The next meeting will be held at the home of the Misses Marshall, 3426 Vernon avenue, on Wednesday afternoon, January twenty-fifth.



Ladies' Benevolent Society

Mrs. W. Morava, Dept. Editor

The annual meeting of the society, usually held on the first Friday in December, was postponed because of the bazaar until December 16th. We were glad to welcome Mrs. Haskins and her daughter, Mrs. Gibson.

The annual reports of the standing committees showed faithful conscientious work.

The main feature of the day was the election of officers. Very few changes were made. For the year 1905 we have for

President—Mrs. Clifford Williams
1st Vice Pres.—Mrs. J. S. McCollough

2nd Vice Pres.—Mrs. C. H. Marshall
 Secretary—Mrs. W. Morava
 Treasurer—Miss E. Goodman
 Executive Committee—The officers of the society and Mrs. John Ahrens, Mrs. H. H. Chandler, Mrs. A. E. Cochrane and Mrs. S. B. Lingle.

Chairman of the Cutting Committee—Mrs. W. E. Smith

Chairman of the Quilt Committee—Mrs. H. C. Combs

Chairman of the Visiting Committee—Mrs. S. B. Lingle

Chairman of the Luncheon and Table Committee—Mrs. E. L. Russel

Chairman of the Lookout Committee—Mrs. J. S. McCollough

With these strong women to lead we think the outlook very hopeful and look forward to a year of vigorous work.



Lorimer Class

The class entertainment given Thursday evening, December 15th, was quite successful under the circumstances. Coming just after the bazaar and so close to Christmas, the sale of tickets was not so large as it might have been under better conditions. We are especially grateful to Dr. Montezuma for the assistance rendered to the entertainment. Whatever success was achieved was due mainly to his kindness and generosity.

Monday evening, December 12th, the election of officers for the ensuing six months resulted as follows:

President—Henry B. Chase
 Vice Pres.—Harold Bennett
 Treasurer—Samuel Lingle
 Ass't. Treas.—Calvin Rader
 Secretary—Ernest Hartung

Chairman Social Committee—Julius Lackner

Chairman Attendance Committee—Sam Lingle

Chairman Membership Committee—Robt Leland.

It would be a great help to the class if you would hand to the president or any of the officers the name and address of some young man whom you would like to see interested in the class, and he will appreciate your kindness, for such persons are always visited and invited to the class.



Are you trying to win one life for the Lord?

Now for the best year the grand old First Church ever knew.

We are glad to see Mr. Humphrey with us again after his recent illness.

A large number of subscriptions to Church Life are due this month.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Barron because of the death of his brother.

Mr. Embree addressed a meeting at the Central Y. M. C. A. during the week.

Mrs. Knight expects to leave for the south during the week, to spend the winter.

Mr. Ben Oliel, president of the South Division C. E. was a recent visitor at our society.

Miss Van Fleet our new church and Sunday School visitor began her work with us January 1st.

Mr. Messner of the Y. M. C. A. Central Department is a valuable addition to the work of our Boy's Club.

We congratulate Miss Helen Todd on receiving a scholarship at the University of Chicago during the autumn quarter.

Mr. Ray Merrifield our pastor's assistant was with us for the first time last Sunday. He is working on the religious census.

Mrs. Whitmore has returned from Dayton, Ohio, where she has been visiting her son, the Rev. Holmes Whitmore, rector of Christ Church.

It would be hard to conceive of a more impressive service than was held in our church January 8th, by the Geo. H. Thomas post of the G. A. R.

Deacon Leland was greatly missed from the Sunday School and on Wednesday evening. As a leader of our singing Prof. Leland cannot be spared.

Send to the church any garments that can be of any use to those who are in need. We have more calls for such things than we can supply.

The annual meeting held in the main auditorium did not seem like a large representation but the gathering was an ideal Baptist business meeting.

The Standard and Church Life can be had for the price of the Standard alone. We make this special offer hoping that many will take advantage of it.

Thanks to the enterprise of our Ladies' Benevolent Society our lecture room parlors and Sunday School rooms are newly redecorated throughout. Come next Sunday and see the new rooms.

Rev. Mr. Proctor who has been a missionary at Ning Po, China for the past seven years worshipped with us last Sunday. He was formerly an active worker with us in the Sunday School and C. E., and at Raymond. He is now associated with Brother Ubank in China.

The Christmas party for the little people in Mrs. Thomas' class was held Thursday afternoon, December 29th, at half past two o'clock. About fifty children played together for over an hour in the lecture room and then they were invited to the parlors for refreshments. Santa Claus and his Jack Frost attendants were present with boxes of candy for all.

The annual reception of the Baptist Missionary Training School will be held at 2411 Indiana avenue on Tuesday, February 14th, afternoon and evening. Supper will be served from six to eight. This is always a delightful occasion, when Baptists from all parts of the city gather in this institution which means so much to our denomination. It is hoped many of our ladies will be present in the afternoon, meeting their husbands at the supper hour and so enjoying the evening program.



Raymond Chapel

Charles H. Coyle. Dept. Editor

We are pleased to have Miss Daisy Marxbaek as a regular teacher.

We are glad to welcome Mr. Leslie B. Simmons as a worker at Raymond.

Mrs. Saker who has been at the Baptist Hospital is the mother of a baby boy.

Mr. Stewart, president of the South Division Intermediate C. E., was a visitor last Sunday.

On the afternoon of December 30th, the ladies of Raymond Chapel were delightfully entertained by Mrs. Freleigh.

On December 15th at Mrs. Embree's home a Woman's Society was formed. Mrs. Freleigh was elected president; Mrs. W. M. Embree, vice president; Mrs. Rader,

treasurer; Mrs. Lubbens, secretary; Mrs. Austermel, chairman of the devotional and missionary committee; Mrs. Wadie, chairman of the work committee; Mrs. Embree, chairman of the visiting committee.

At the close of an earnest talk to our Bible School by the pastor, Dr. de Blois, Sunday, December 25th, cards were distributed that those who wished might indicate their will to accept the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior and Lord. Sixty-six names were handed in. We believe that most of those who signed did so seriously and intelligently and have actually given their hearts into the care of the great Shepherd. Some have since come to Mr. Embree to ask about being received into membership at the church. We thank God for this token of His blessing upon the work of the past months. Let us pray for more and larger results continually.

The Christmas entertainment held Thursday evening, December 29th, was one of the most enjoyable ever held at the Chapel and reflected great credit on Mr. Embree for his skill in devising it and the labor in carefully drilling the large number of performers. The Girls' Drill Corps had a prominent part on the program and acquitted themselves with great credit as was to be expected. A "Drum-Stick Corp" contributed to the merriment while a very fairy-like band of "Christmas Fairies" delivered messages of love and kindness. Santa Claus appeared at the close and superintended the distribution of gifts after which, though a trifle husky from exposure to Arctic winters, he sang a song to the school.

At last work has begun on our new building! Excavating was begun the last week in December and the place is about ready for the foundation. With favorable weather the expectation is that work will now go forward without delay. That is provided the subscriptions are paid promptly. Will our friends heed the plea made last month and not only pay promptly pledges already made but consider if they cannot give more than promised. The building committee is proceeding on plans for a building much smaller than first designed, a building we expect to fully occupy almost at the start, making later alterations to accommodate growth a practical certainty. How much better could they be enabled to put up now the chapel as planned.



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Editor
WESLEY M. EMBREE.

Department Editors

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Miss B. N. Harvey	C. M. Clark
Mrs. S. B. Lingle	H. F. Perkins
Mrs. W. Morava	R. J. Pickett
Miss E. M. Pickett	A. R. Rhenisch

C. L. Rundell, Advertising Manager

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One Year Old

With this number Church Life begins the second year of its existence. We are grateful to our friends who have subseribed during the first year but we hope to more than double the list during the first month of this year. Many of the subserip-tions are due and we hope for two hundred renewals and hundreds of new subserip-tions. Send the paper to some friend out of the city who would like to keep in touch with the church.

Our plans for the new year will make the paper more desirable than ever. The pastor will contribute more sermons. We hope to have every organization in the church represented. We hope the finances will make it possible to have more cuts than heretofore.

Our Sunday Services

The attendance at our Sunday services seems to be on the increase. This is as it should be. But the doxology is not as strong in volume as the second hymn.

What a help it would be to the service as a whole and what an inspiration to the pastor if the first note of praise should be raised by every voice in the building.

An Evangelistic Rally

Last Tuesday evening a remarkable meeting was held in our auditorium. It was a united gathering of all the Baptist Churches in our section of the city, called in the interests of a concerted evangelistic movement among all of our Chicago Baptist Churches.

After the introductory remarks by our pastor Dr. Johnston Myers the chairman of the evangelistic committee gave the history of the movement and in characteristic manner urged the need of a great revival and suggested certain plans. He was followed by Dr. Tuller of Memorial Church, who spoke of the need and hunger for a religious awakening. Rev. John Linden of the 48th Street Church presented some facts revealing the moral degradation of certain classes of people. Rev. Franklin Swift spoke of the needed power and how to lay hold upon it. Dr. de Blois then gave the audience a treat by calling upon Dr. Gifford of Buffalo who had come into the meeting.

This mass meeting will undoubtedly result in a great evangelistic campaign among the churches in this part of the city.

Spend Sunday Evening at the Church

Sunday evening, January 15th, Dr. de Blois will begin a most interesting series of sermons, entitled, "Old Time Lessons for Modern Men."

1. A Hardy Pioneer: The first young man who went west.
2. A Crafty Politician: The young man who sought gain through trickery.
3. A Pure Hearted Statesman: The young man who made character count.
4. A Nation Builder: The young man with a purpose.
5. A Brave General: The young man who knew no fear.
6. An Imperial Conqueror: The young poet who became king.
7. A Double-minded Seer: A young man of brilliant genius who went wrong.
8. A Princeely Anarchist: The young man who broke his father's heart.

9. A Bold Iconoclast: The young man who led the heroes amid an army of cowards.

10. A Royal Renegade: The young king who went to the Devil.

11. A Righteous Ruler: The young king who resisted evil.

12. A Wise Premier: The young man with a great soul.

13. A Fearless Reformer: The young herdsman who arraigned high society.

14. A Mighty Prophet: The herald of the King of Kings.

This list may be somewhat revised but cards of invitation giving the titles of these sermons are now in the hands of the committee for distribution, if you can help in this work they will be glad to supply you.



Changes in Membership

Additions

By Baptism—

Mr. N. O. Sjodahl, 3010 Prairie Ave.

By Experience—

Miss Josephine M. Brown, 2832 Vernon Ave.

Diminutions

By Letter—

Mr. C. W. Sheppard

Mr. Harry M. Reid

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Stone, Jr.

By Death—

Mr. S. M. Parrish



THE JOURNAL OF THE CHURCH

H. F. Perkins, Church Clerk

December 18. Thursday and Friday. Holiday Bazaar held under the auspices of the Ladies' Benevolent Society.

December 3. Saturday. Meeting of the Boys' Club.

December 4. Sunday. Sermon by the Pastor; morning: "Living the Gospel," evening: "A Message for Character."

December 5. Monday. Sunday School Teachers' Study Class. Social meeting of the Lorimer Class.

December 6. Tuesday. The Men's League considered the subject of suppressing vice in this neighborhood. Addresses were made by Mr. W. S. Forrest, Mr. S. J. Knight and Mr. T. J. Holmes.

December 7. Wednesday. Church prayer and social service. Theme taken from Act 26:19-29.

December 8. Thursday. Social meeting of Bible Class C.

December 9. Friday. Annual praise service of the Women's Mission Circle. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Miss Blanche Pickett. Topic: "How to worship in spirit and truth." Ps. 100:1-5; John 4:19-24.

December 10. Saturday. Boys' Club.

December 11. Sunday. In the morning the Pastor preached upon the topic, "Life Making Forces," and in the evening on "Saved from Himself."

December 12. Monday. Sunday School Teachers' Study Class. Social meeting of the Lorimer Class.

December 14. Wednesday. Church prayer and social service. Theme, "Worldly Wisdom and God's Service." Luke 16:1-12.

December 15. Thursday. An enjoyable entertainment was given under the auspices of the Lorimer Class.

December 16. Friday. Annual meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Christian Endeavor monthly missionary meeting led by Miss Helen Pickett.

December 17. Saturday. Meeting of the Boys' Club.

December 18. Sunday. Sermons by the Pastor, morning: "A Change Upwards," evening: "By the Sign Conquer."

December 19. Monday. Sunday School Teachers' Class. Social meeting of the Lorimer Class.

December 20. Tuesday. Business meeting of the Men's League.

December 21. Wednesday. Church prayer and social service. Miss Henry of Maryville College told of the work among the mountaineers of Tennessee.

December 23. Friday. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Miss Kilbourne. Topic: "How to break bad habits and cultivate good ones." Rom. 8:1-15.

December 24. Saturday. The Boys' Club.

December 25. Sunday. Special Christmas service. In the morning the Pastor preached upon the theme, "The Babe of Bethlehem," and in the evening on "The Glory of Christmastide."

December 27. Tuesday. Christmas entertainment of the Sunday School.

December 28. Wednesday. Church prayer and social service. Theme: Retrospect and Prospect." Math. 25:14-46.

December 30. Friday. Christian Eu-

CHURCH LIFE.

deavor prayer meeting led by Miss Mabel Moors and Miss Elizabeth Pickett. Topic: "Whatever He would like to have me do." Math. 6:10; John 15:10-

16. An interesting talk by Miss Henry and an enjoyable social followed. December 31. Saturday. Meeting of the Boys' Club.



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